

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR VOLUME 54

I would like to welcome you to the 92nd year of the California Botanical Society. As we begin to approach the first century of our organization, I would like to thank all of the volunteers that are responsible for the continuing function of the Society. In particular, the board has been responsible and proactive in meeting all the challenges and duties involved in running a non-profit organization. So, I would like to extend my deep appreciation to Sue Bainbridge (Corresponding Secretary), Staci Markos (Recording Secretary), Stephania Mambelli (First Vice-President), Matt Ritter (Second Vice-President), Mike Vasey (Past President), Roy Buck (Treasurer), Abigail Moore (Student representative), Andrew Doran, Diane Ikeda, and Jim Shevock.

Speaking of *Madroño*, there are several major changes taking place. Hard-working editor John Hunter has completed his tenure. I would like to thank John for all of his efforts. Editing a peer-reviewed journal is a daunting task, and it takes a person with a strong sense of community responsibility to consent to do it. In that regard, I would like to welcome the new editor of *Madroño*, Paula Schiffman of California State University, Northridge. She will be following in the footsteps of many great California botanists, starting with W. L. Jepson.

In other personnel changes, Roy Buck, our long-time treasurer, will be stepping down from that role. Roy has provided an important consistency and organizational memory as he carried out the crucial tasks of treasurer, and I would like to extend to him special thanks. He will

continue to serve on the board as a member-at-large. Stephania Mambelli has finished her term as Second Vice-President in charge of programming. Stephania's efficiency and effectiveness have made her a joy to work with. Member-at-large, Andrew Doran, has replaced her. He has some exciting talks planned for the upcoming year.

A development that we are very excited about is the online availability of current *Madroño* articles. *Madroño* will be available through BIOONE, as well as individually to members via a password. We have kept the cost low for online access to articles to non-members, in order to increase exposure to *Madroño*.

Our Annual Banquet will be held February 23, 2008 at the University of California Santa Cruz Arboretum, in Santa Cruz, CA. Daniel Harder, Director of the Arboretum, will be the second Vice-President in charge of planning the banquet. Our speaker will be John N. Thompson of the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of California, Santa Cruz. This is an outstanding botanical garden to visit in February, and we plan to have a tour of the gardens before the banquet. Mark your calendars now to reserve this date.

Finally, thanks again to all of you for your continued support of our Society. I look forward to seeing you all in February at the banquet, if not sooner!

Dean G. Kelch
October 2007